

# Focus on Fifth

Weekly News for Holmes Fifth-Grade Families

News and Events in the 5th Grade

**May 2, 2016**

[www.op97.org](http://www.op97.org)

## Important Dates:

- May 2** - IAAT - 5th grade math classes
- May 3** - IAAT - Mrs. Circo's math class
- May 5** - Field Trip to Robert Crown Center for Health
- May 13** - Transition Picnic (Brooks feeder schools)
- May 23** - 5M presents *Hamlet*
- May 24** - 5L presents *Twelfth Night*
- May 26** - 5C presents *Macbeth*
- May 27** - 5F presents *A Midsummer Night's Dream*
- May 30** - Memorial Day - no school
- June 3** - Book Swap
- June 6** - Aquatic field trip
- June 7** - Fifth Grade Completion Ceremony
- June 8** - Olympic Day/Last day of school

## News:

### Typing Practice

Students can log on to Typing Training from home to practice keyboarding skills. The Typing Training program is accessible from the District's website, and students should begin practicing keyboarding skills at home. The link is: <http://www.op97.org/technology/Custom-Typing.cfm>

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**Click here for our 2nd trimester newsletter- [SPECIALS DELIVERY](#)**

### **Art**

Our looms are ready! We'll continue weaving this week.

~Ms. Jones ([kjones@op97.org](mailto:kjones@op97.org))

### **Music**

We will be continuing the song "Street Song" which we started playing on the Orff (xylophone instruments) last trimester. You should have received a email and letter with the 3rd trimester assessments this week. If you did not receive this email please contact me at [akaria@op97.org](mailto:akaria@op97.org).

**Share Day** will be this week on Thursday and Friday- April 28th and April 29th.

**Students (if they choose) can bring in something to share/perform. Examples are:**

- Singing a song for the class
- Playing an instrument from home for the class
- Playing a piece on the classroom piano (students can bring in music if needed)
- Dancing for the class (students can bring in a CD or send me a link if needed-**a guardian/parent needs to write a note or email saying the song is appropriate**)
- Playing (on a CD or by giving a link) a piece of music for the class-**a guardian/parent needs to write a note/ send an email saying the song is appropriate**

Participation is completely voluntary. Students can drop off instruments/materials in the **auditorium** on the morning of their share if needed. Share day is not only an opportunity for students to share their talents, but also for us as class to work on several listening goals as well as practice proper audience behavior.

### **Chorus**

Congratulations a wonderful Festival and Wolves Game performance! Click the link below if you are interested in listening to the recordings of the performance.

[Festival Recordings Link](#)

### **Spanish**

The fifth graders have started a new story about a chicken named Carlos. A problematic unicorn creates a challenge for Carlos. Stay tuned to see what happens! We will be also doing informal assessments with Kahoot as we elaborate the story.

### **Library, Reading Olympics**

The Reading Olympics **Extreme Round** will be held at the OPPL Thursday, April 21. The Holmes competition will be the previous week. All 18 books will be on the competition question list!

<http://www.op97.org/holmes/mediacenter/Reading-Olympics.cfm>

### **Library**

Just before spring break, we started a new research project. Students will be researching a country of their choice, writing a narrative from the point of view of a student in that country, and making a movie that highlights a "day in the life..." in that country. We will be using the CultureGrams database through the OPPL [Homework Help](#) page. While the majority of the project will be done in the library, students may wish to access the databases at home or interview a parent, family member, or friend about the country they are researching. To access the database, students will need an OPPL card and PIN. Don't forget to email me with any questions! [mmaneck@op97.org](mailto:mmaneck@op97.org)

### **Physical Education**

April 15th is our Annual Student vs, Staff Basketball Game. April also brings about our Dance Unit. The kids will be moving to different tunes while they boogie down to our p.e. School district Xbox 360 system. The dance unit will go on for the entire month of April.

### **Reading/Literature**

This week, we will be continuing with our third trimester ELA Unit, titled "Change and Identity."

Throughout this unit, students will be focusing on the following question, especially in relation to their transition to middle school: *What factors shape who you are as an individual and your role within society?* We will focus on identifying the relationship between events within informational texts. Students will identify causes and effects when closely reading these texts.

Please make sure there is a parent or guardian checking, and initialing, students' reading logs each night!

### **Writing**

Our writing time will be spent continuing to identify evidence and reasons to support persuasive

claims. Students will be choosing a topic for their persuasive essay.

## **Math**

This week, all 5th graders will take the IAAT (Iowa Algebra Aptitude Test). Brooks Middle School will use the results of the IAAT as one of the factors to determine 6th grade math placement. The IAAT is 60 minutes in length and will be administered during math class. Mrs. Circo's math students will take the test on Tuesday. All other 5th graders will take the test today (Monday).

In addition to the IAAT, we will also begin working on decimal division. Students will use estimation and place value knowledge to divide decimals by whole numbers. There will be a short quiz on Friday covering rounding decimals and decimal operations.

## **Science**

In science this week, we will be continuing our life sciences unit about biomes and ecosystems. Please remind your child to bring in empty plastic bottles and water bottles for our biodome unit. The students will be creating their own biodomes and understanding the energy transfers within an ecosystem.

## **Social Studies**

Due to PARCC testing, we will not be beginning any new Social Studies lessons this week. If we have time, we will revisit last week's lessons on what makes a news story. We will continue reading current events and analyze why they were selected as news.

## **Word Study**

This week, we will work within Unit 4 Lesson 20 of our vocabulary curriculum, which focuses on the Latin bases *stru* and *struct* meaning "build" Students will have word work for this lesson due on Friday.

Visit the **Holmes Digital Backpack** - <http://www.op97.org/holmes/digitalbackpack/>

**We're on the Web!**

Visit us at: <http://holmes5thgrade.wikispaces.com/>

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